

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN  
2016 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

**TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN, NEW HAMPSHIRE who are qualified to vote in Town affairs,**

**TAKE NOTICE AND BE WARNED** that the First and Second Sessions of the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Charlestown, New Hampshire, will be held on **Wednesday, February 3, 2016 commencing at 6:30 P.M. in the Town Hall at 19 Summer Street** and on **Tuesday, March 8, 2016 commencing at 8:00 A.M. in the Community Room at the Silsby Library/Municipal Building.** At the second session, voting on all warrant articles will be by Official Ballot commencing at 8:00 A.M. and concluding at 7:00 P.M. unless the Town Meeting votes to keep the polls open to a later time.

**ARTICLE 1.** To elect the necessary Town Officers for their respective terms.

**ARTICLE 2.** Are you in favor of the adoption of the amendment to the existing town Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the planning board: It would add provisions prohibiting any use which could cause any undue hazard to health, safety or property values or which is potentially detrimental to the public because of noise, vibration, dust, particulate matter, radiation, excessive traffic, unsanitary conditions, noxious odor, smoke or other similar reasons. Copies of the full text of the proposed amendment are on file and available for public inspection during regular business hours in the Office of the Town Clerk and will be available at the Deliberative Session and at the polls.

**ARTICLE 3.** Are you in favor of the adoption of the amendment to the existing town Drinking Water Protection District Ordinance? It would expand the Drinking Water Protection District to protect the new Bull Run Well #2 and make a number of currently prohibited uses in the District allowable by conditional use permit. Copies of the full text of the proposed amendment are on file and available for public inspection during regular business hours in the Office of the Town Clerk and will be available at the Deliberative Session and at the polls.

**ARTICLE 4.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as

amended by the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, the sum of \$4,907,138 which represents \$4,103,048 for the Town operating budget, \$449,713 for the Water Fund operating budget and \$354,377 for the Sewer Fund operating budget.

Should this article be defeated, the default operating budget shall be \$4,757,925 which is the same as last year's budget\*, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law, or the governing body may hold one special meeting in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

\*The default budget represents \$3,902,306 for the Town operating budget, \$507,018 for the Water Fund operating budget, and \$348,601 for the Sewer Fund operating budget.

NOTE: This warrant article (operating budgets) does not include appropriations in ANY other warrant article.

**The Selectboard recommends this appropriation.**

**The Finance Committee recommends this appropriation.**

**ARTICLE 5.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$51,800 for the purpose of conducting a statistical update reappraisal of all real estate in the Town for the 2016 tax year (5 years after the last one) and to authorize the withdrawal of the \$51,800 from the Real Estate Reappraisal Capital Reserve Fund established under Article 6 at the 2011 Annual Town Meeting for that purpose. **No part of this appropriation is to be raised by general taxation.** (Majority vote required)

**The Selectboard recommends this appropriation.**

**The Finance Committee recommends this appropriation.**

**ARTICLE 6.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to enter into a 10 year lease-purchase agreement for the acquisition of a new front-end loader for the Highway Department at a total cost of \$199,000 less the \$16,000 trade-in value of the current loader, making the actual cost to the Town the amount of \$183,000. And further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$22,000 as the first year's payment of principal and interest toward said lease-purchase. Future annual payments in years 2-10 would continue to be \$22,000. The lease-purchase agreement shall contain a non-appropriation or "escape" clause providing that should the scheduled lease payment not be appropriated in future years, the equipment will be returned to the lessor with no further obligations or liabilities on behalf of the Town. (Majority vote required.)

**The Selectboard recommends this appropriation.**

**The Finance Committee recommends this appropriation.**

**ARTICLE 7.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for the purchase of a “Jaws-of-Life” apparatus for the use of the Fire Department.

**The Selectboard recommends this appropriation.**

**The Finance Committee recommends this appropriation.**

**ARTICLE 8.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in the Real Estate Reappraisal Capital Reserve Fund established under Article 6 at the 2011 Annual Town Meeting for the purpose of setting aside some of the funds that will be needed for a reappraisal of all real estate in the Town as required by law every 5 years.

**The Selectboard recommends this appropriation.**

**The Finance Committee recommends this appropriation**

**ARTICLE 9.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be placed in the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund established under Article 7 at the 2011 Annual Town Meeting.

**The Selectboard recommends this appropriation.**

**The Finance Committee recommends this appropriation.**

**ARTICLE 10.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in the Silsby Library/Municipal Building Masonry Restoration and Preservation Capital Reserve Fund established under Article 8 at the 2012 Annual Town Meeting.

**The Selectboard recommends this appropriation.**

**The Finance Committee recommends this appropriation.**

**ARTICLE 11.** To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of acquiring, replacing or repairing emergency services communications equipment or improvements and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to be placed in said fund, and further to authorize the Selectboard to act as agent to carry out such purpose and to expend monies from such fund without further authorization of the Town Meeting.

**The Selectboard recommends this appropriation.**

**The Finance Committee recommends this appropriation.**

**ARTICLE 12.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for the use of the Charlestown Beautification Coalition to maintain the floral

baskets, tubs and gardens in the growing season and green wreathes and red bows on the decorative light poles in the winter on Main Street.

**The Selectboard recommends this appropriation.**

**The Finance Committee recommends this appropriation.**

**ARTICLE 13.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for the support of the Fort at #4. **(By Petition)**

**The Selectboard recommends this appropriation.**

**The Finance Committee recommends this appropriation.**

**ARTICLE 14.** To see if the Town will vote to increase the Optional Veterans Tax Credit from the current \$400 to \$500 pursuant to the provisions of RSA 72:28.

**The Selectboard recommends this article.**

**The Finance Committee recommends this article.**

**ARTICLE 15.** To see if the Town will vote to adopt an ordinance under RSA 31:41-c in order to protect the safety, welfare and rights of voters at any election held for any purpose in the Town that prohibits electioneering within a corridor that is 10 feet wide and within 50 feet from the entrance to the polling place with the following terms: a) "electioneering" shall mean any action in any way specifically designed to influence the vote of a voter on any question or office; b) this prohibition shall not extend to the display of printed or written matter attached to any legally parked motor vehicle, nor shall such prohibition extend to activities conducted wholly on private property so as not to interfere with people approaching or entering a polling place; and c) failure to conform to this ordinance shall constitute a violation with such penalties as authorized by law. A copy of this ordinance, if adopted, shall be posted at each polling place at least 72 hours in advance of any town election.

**The Selectboard recommends this article**

**ARTICLE 16.** To see if the town will vote to direct the Selectboard to approve and execute the first formulated plan, collaborated by the Town Clerk/Tax Collector and Selectboard together, for the use of the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office at 233 Main Street, with no less than 830 square feet to be allocated to the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office which includes bullet proofing and ADA compliance, to be moving forward by May 2, 2016. **(By Petition)**

**The Selectboard does not recommend this article.**

**ARTICLE 17.** To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Given under our hands and seal this 21<sup>st</sup> day of January 2016.

**Charlestown Selectboard**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven Neill, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brenda Ferland

\_\_\_\_\_  
Arthur Grenier

A true copy attest:

**Charlestown Selectboard**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven Neill, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brenda Ferland

\_\_\_\_\_  
Arthur Grenier